

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 and 24-53 were previously pending. Applicants note with gratitude the Examiner's indication that claims 2, 3, 10, 11, 15, 16, 18, 20 and 24-53 were patentable over the cited art. Claims 1-22 have been cancelled without prejudice in this Amendment with the right to pursue in a subsequent continuation application. Thus, claims 24-53 remain pending.

Claims 1-22 and 24-53 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-75 of U.S. Patent No. 6,221,330. To expedite the allowance of claims 24-53, and without acquiescing to the merit of this rejection, Applicants hereby file a terminal disclaimer over U.S. Patent No. 6,221,330. Thus, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

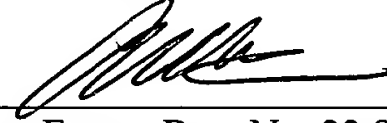
Furthermore, claims 1, 4-9, 12-14, 17, 19, 21 and 22 were under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated or in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the article by Sen et al. Applicants respectfully traverse for the reasons set forth in their Response of October 8, 2003. However, since claims 1-22 have been cancelled and claims 24-53 were indicated to be allowable over the prior art, this issue is moot and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

As such, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 24-53 are in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

No extra fee is believed due. If there are any additional fees, the Director is authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0540.

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Respectfully submitted,



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